

Our pictures from the Suez Canal show the raising of the tug Edgar Bonnet --- which renders the waterway navigable for most shipping. ~~ships~~ It is estimated that the cost of clearing the Canal --- blocked by the Egyptians last November --- is ~~over~~ ^{over} seven million pounds. In the Canal, ~~many~~ ^{MANY} ships of ~~various~~ ^{various} nations awaited the "All Clear" from Egypt before going through. ~~Their total losses are estimated at twenty-five million pounds a month.~~ ^{but British ships were advised by the Government against using the Canal immediately}

Meanwhile, from Cairo, here is the arrival of Mr Hammarskjold, representing the United Nations, for conversations with Egypt's President Nasser on future conditions for Canal users. The terms of their discussions, ~~however~~, were not disclosed. [^]

Meanwhile, in the Gaza Strip, a train of supplies sent by the Egyptian Government from Cairo was escorted in by an Arab committee of welcome. Thousands more waited at the station to greet the train with slogans and cheers for Nasser. There was another terrific welcome for the Egyptian troops.

At the same time, a Danish unit of the United Nations Emergency Force, moved on to new positions nearer the Israeli ~~border~~ ^{border}.

Now --- to the other side of the argument... as it affects the vital Middle East ~~supply~~ oil. After two months' work, a one-hundred-and-sixty-mile ~~pipeline~~ pipeline has been completed, from the Gulf of Aquaba to Beersheba. This eight-inch pipe will carry the oil to the railhead, on the way to the port of Haifa. At the Gulf, it connects with storage tanks and with ships bringing the oil from such places as Persia. It's an alternative route to Suez.

Now --- for a human problem. Although the neighbourhood of the Gaza Strip doesn't seem like an ideal place to make a new home, here on the Israeli side of the border are people who are doing just that. They are Hungarian refugees.... and even this uncertainty is preferable to the kind of certainty they have left behind. Here --- as elsewhere --- the price of freedom is eternal vigilance. But at least it is freedom.